## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

## **GENERAL ORDER**

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) requires the parties to confer, develop a proposed discovery plan, and submit a report to this Court. Subsequent to the filing of the report, a Scheduling Order must be entered pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b). Therefore, by the earlier of 60 days after any defendant has been served with the complaint or 45 days after any defendant has appeared, the parties shall confer as provided in Rule 26(f). See L.R. 26.1(a). Within 14 days after the required conference held pursuant to Rule 26(f), the parties shall submit to the Court a written report conforming to the language and format of the Rule 26(f) Report attached to this Order. L.R. 26.1(b); see Appendix of Forms to Local Rules.

Except in unusually protracted or complex cases, the parties will be expected to adhere to the following deadlines and limitations:

- 1. The parties shall serve *all written discovery* on opposing parties and shall complete all depositions within **140 days** of the filing of the last answer of the defendants named in the original complaint. L.R. 26.1(d)(i).
- 2. The plaintiff must furnish the expert witness reports and disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(3) within 60 days after the Rule 26(f) conference. L.R. 26.1(d)(ii).
- 3. The defendant must furnish the expert witness reports and disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(2) within 90 days after the Rule 26(f) conference (or 60 days after the last answer, whichever is later). L.R. 26.1(d)(iii).
- 4. The last day for filing motions to add or join parties or amend the pleadings is **60 days** after the first answer of the defendants named in the original complaint. L.R. 16.3.
- 5. The last day for *filing all other motions*, including *Daubert* motions but excluding motions in limine, is **30 days** after the close of discovery. L.R. 7.4.

Plaintiff's counsel shall ensure that a copy of this Order is served upon each party. Finally, a party who cannot gain the cooperation of the other party in preparing the Rule 26(f) report should advise the Court prior to the due date of the report of the other party's failure to cooperate.

SO ORDERED.

Christopher L. Ray

United States Magistrate Judge

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

Plaintiff  Plaintiff  Case No.  Case No.  Defendant  RULE 26(f) REPORT  Date of Rule 26(f) conference:  Parties or counsel who participated in conference:  If any defendant has yet to be served, please identify the defendant and state when service is expected.  Date the Rule 26(a)(1) disclosures were made or will be made:  If any party objects to making the initial disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(1) or proposes changes to the timing or form of those disclosures,  (a) Identify the party or parties making the objection or proposal:				DIVISION
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	Local Rules provide a 140-day period for discovery. If any ty is requesting additional time for discovery,
(a)	Identify the party or parties requesting additional time:
(b)	State the number of months the parties are requesting for discovery:
nths	
(c)	Identify the reason(s) for requesting additional time for discovery:
	Unusually large number of parties
	Unusually large number of claims or defenses
	Unusually large number of witnesses
	Exceptionally complex factual issues
	Need for discovery outside the United States
	Other:
(d)	Please provide a brief statement in support of each of the reasons identified above:

	ny party is requesting that disco es or conducted in phases, pleas	
(a)	Identify the party or parties re	questing such limits:
(b)	State the nature of any propos	ed limits:
	Local Rules provide, and the Co wing deadlines:	urt generally imposes, the
	day for filing motions to add in parties or amend pleadings	60 days after issue is joined
	day to furnish expert witness rt by plaintiff	60 days after Rule26(f) conference
	day to furnish expert witness rt by a defendant	90 days after Rule 26(f) conference (or 60 days after the answer, whichever is later)

	Las	t day to file motions	30 days after close of discovery
	If a	ny party requests a modification of an	y of these deadlines,
	(a)	Identify the party or parties reques	ting the modification:
	(b)	State which deadline should be mod supporting the request:	lified and the reason
9.	If th	e case involves electronic discovery,	
	(a)	State whether the parties have read regarding the preservation, disclosure electronically stored information, and have their agreement memoralized briefly describe the terms of their agreement.	are, or discovery of ad if the parties prefer to in the scheduling order,
	(b)	Identify any issues regarding electronic information as to which the parties reach an agreement:	

	discovery material:
(p)	Briefly describe the terms of any agreement the parties wis to have memoralized in the scheduling order (or attach any separate proposed order which the parties are requesting the Court to enter addressing such matters):
(c)	Identify any issues regarding claims of privilege or protection as to which the parties have been unable to reac an agreement:

Please st		ettlement or resolution of the case. Dems that have created a hindrance
This	day of	
	Signed:	Attorney for Plaintiff
		Attorney for Defendant